

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-20 IGA-02 DRC-01 /121 W

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R 060930Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5654

INFO USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

SECDEF WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

CINCUSAREUR

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL DHAHRAIN

CONFIDENTIAL TEHRAN 1804

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, AMED, IR

SUBJECT: TEHRAN DISPENSARY

REF: TEHRAN 8089, NOV 1973

1. EUCOM AND USAREUR OFFICERS RECENTLY VISITED EMBASSY AND PROVIDED INFORMATION ON BACKGROUND AND PLANNING FOR FUTURE OF TEHRAN DISPENSARY AND ITS PROPOSED USE AS PRIMARY MEDICAL SUPPORT FACILITY FOR AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST. FOLLOWING IS RESUME OF THEIR PRESENTATION:

2. IN EARLY 1972 AFTER TEHRAN HOSPITAL HAD BEEN REDUCED TO CLINIC OPERATION, THEN AMBASSADOR AND CHIEF, ARMISH/MAAG, SUGGESTED RESTORATION OF FULL HOSPITAL FACILITIES. ABOUT ONE YEAR LATER AROUND THE TIME THAT TAFT PROGRAM WAS APPROVED, DECISION WAS TAKEN BY DA TO UPGRADE CLINIC TO HOSPITAL STATUS. HOWEVER, SPACES FOR STAFFING OF HOSPITAL COULD NOT BE READILY SECURED. IN OCTOBER, THROUGH A POOLING ARRANGEMENT WITH AIR

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FORCE AND NAVY, SUFFICIENT SPACES WERE IDENTIFIED. AS PART

OF THIS AGREEMENT, IT WAS PROPOSED THAT TEHRAN HOSPITAL WOULD PROVIDE BACKUP SUPPORT FOR US MILITARY PERSONNEL IN ETHIOPIA AND SAUDI ARABIA. IN FACT, MILITARY MEDICAL PERSONNEL AT THOSE STATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED ON DETACHED DUTY FROM TEHRAN. THIS ARRANGEMENT WAS APPROVED BY JCS IN DECEMBER 1973.

3. VISITING OFFICERS AND CHIEF OF TEHRAN HOSPITAL ESTIMATED THAT SUPPORT FOR OUT-OF-IRAN PERSONNEL AND DEPENDENTS MIGHT MEAN THAT THERE WOULD BE SIX TO TEN ADDITIONAL PATIENTS PER

WEEK IN TEHRAN FOR TREATMENT. THEY CONSIDERED THAT THIS NUMBER WOULD WORK NO RPT NO HARSHIP ON TEHRAN FACILITY OR MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND WOULD NOT DEGRADE SERVICES PROVIDED TO MILITARY AND CIVILIAN STAFF AND DEPENDENTS OF THIS MISSION. VISITING OFFICERS NOTED THAT THERE MIGHT BE A PROBLEM WITH MAC FLIGHT SCHEDULES FROM ETHIOPIA AND SAUDI ARABIA WHICH COULD INTERFERE WITH PROGRAM OF TEHRAN BACK-UP SUPPORT.

4. ON BASIS OF FOREGOING PRESENTATION, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT STATE CONCUR IN JCS PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH PRIMARY MEDICAL SUPPORT FACILITY FOR AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST IN TEHRAN. IF AND WHEN WE ARE NOTIFIED OF A POSITIVE DECISION, WE BELIEVE

GOI APPROVAL SHOULD BE REQUESTED. WE ANTICIPATE NO DIFFICULTIES AND BELIEVE THIS COULD BE EXPEDITIOUSLY ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH MILITARY CHANNELS.

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